

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FRANKF 02020 151523Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-10 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 OES-06 FEAE-00
DODE-00 ERDA-07 PM-04 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02
USIA-15 TRSE-00 /128 W
-----152107Z 040900 /73

R 151459Z MAR 77
FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7493
AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS FRANKFURT 2020

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, GW, US, BR
SUBJECT: FURTHER EDITORIAL COMMENT ON FRG-BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR DEAL,
TANK AND AWACS

REF : FRANKFURT 1954

1. US-GERMAN DIFFERENCES ON THE FRG'S NUCLEAR AGREEMENT
WITH BRAZIL PLUS THE XM-1 VS LEOPARD II AND AWACS CONTINUE
TO BE THE SUBJECT OF EDITORIAL AND COMMENTATORS
ATTENTION IN THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL CIRCULATION PRESS
IN THIS AREA.

2. WIESBADENER KURIER, MAINZER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG AND
THE OBERE HESSISCHER ZEITUNG OF MARBURG ALL CARRIED
COMMENTARIES IN THEIR MARCH 12 EDITIONS ALL IN VARYING
DEGREES CRITICAL OF THE US POSITION. OBERE HESSISCHER
ZEITUNG WHILE GENERALLY LAUDATORY OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S
"POLICY OF NEW MORAL STANDARDS" CITES THE BRAZILIAN
ISSUE OF ILLUSTRATING THE DIFFICULTIES OF THIS POLICY
AND WHAT THE PAPER CALLS THE PITFALLS IN IT.
MAINZER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG STRONGLY DEFENDS BONN'S
POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE UNITED STATES ASSERTING THAT
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BONN IS WILLING TO TAKE PART IN ANY IMPROVEMENT OF
INTERNATIONAL CONTROL MEASURES PROVIDED THEY DO NOT
DISCRIMINATE IN FAVOR TO THE SUPER POWERS AND AGAINST
OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. THE PAPER CITES
ARTICLE 4 OF THE NPT IN SUPPORT OF ITS POSITION.
WIESBADENER KURIER CARRIES A SARCASTICALLY WORDED
COMMENTARY ESSENCE OF WHICH IS THAT THE US ADMINISTRATION

IS CITING MORAL CONSIDERATIONS TO CAMOUFLAGE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS.

3. OTHER LOCAL AREA PAPERS IN FULDA, DARMSTADT, WETZLAR, KOBLENZ AND TRIER ALSO CARRY COMMENTARIES IN VARYING DEGREES EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT THE STATE OF GERMAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS MOST OF THEM EXPRESSING STRONG HOPE THAT DIFFICULTIES WILL BE OVERCOME BUT SIGNED ARTICLE IN THE RHEIN ZEITUNG OF KOBLENZ CONCLUDES "AS MUCH AS WE DEPEND ON AMERICAN PROTECTION; WE HAVE NEITHER DESERVED NOR EXPECTED CARTER'S BIG STICK".

4. NATIONAL CIRCULATION FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG OF MARCH 15 ASSERTS THAT WITH REGARD TO THE GERMAN NUCLEAR BUSINESS WITH BRAZIL WASHINGTON'S TONE IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY PEREMPTORY BUT URGES COOLNESS AND PATIENCE ON PART OF THE GERMAN SIDE NOT ONLY WITH RESPECT TO THE BRAZILIAN DEAL BUT ALSO OTHER MATTERS SUCH AS THE NEW GENERATION TANK AND AWACS. FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU OF MARCH 15 ALSO MENTIONING AWACS AS WELL AS THE TANK SAYS THAT PARTLY BECAUSE OUT OF ENVY AND PARTLY BECAUSE OF OLD EUROPEAN APPREHENSIONS REGARDING GERMANY CARTER MIGHT EARN APPLAUSE FROM OTHER WESTERN EUROPEANS IF HE SHOULD FORCE THE FRG TO ITS KNEES ON THE BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT. RUNDSCHAU ARTICLE FROM BRUSSELS ADDS THAT FURTHER COMPLICATION IS ADDED BY INTERNAL PRESSURE IN HOLLAND TO CANCEL THE TRIPARTITE ENRICHMENT PLANT PROJECT. LEHMANN
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NUCLEAR AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977FRANKF02020
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770089-0216
Format: TEL
From: FRANKFURT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770360/aaaacach.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0a39f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 FRANKFURT 1954
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3110345
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER EDITORIAL COMMENT ON FRG-BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR DEAL, TANK AND AWACS
TAGS: TECH, GE, US, BR
To: STATE BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0a39f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009